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Date: January 6, 2009

Patent 0-05-109 - 15408/US/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Bar-Yaakov et al.
Serial no.: 10/541,668
371(c) date: December 27, 2005
I.A. Filed: January 12, 2004
Title: FLAME RETARDANT FOR ENGINEERING
THERMOPLASTIC APPLICATIONS
Examiner: Megan MCCULLEY
Art Unit: 1796
Confirmation: 4122

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir/Madam:

Response and Amendment

This response is being submitted in reply to the office action mailed on October 15, 2008.

Amendments

Please amend the claims as shown on the attached marked-up pages. Claims 1, 10, and 22 have been restricted to the molecular weight as defined in original claim 5. The subject matter of claim 23 has been incorporated into amended claim 22. Claims 5 and 23 have been canceled. A formal correction has been effected in claims 1, 10, and 22, replacing the term "composition" with the term "retardant" making the wording clearer (supported on pages 2-3).

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §102

The Examiner rejects claims 1-10 and 21-22 as being anticipated by US 5,837,799 (Chen et al.). The Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's objection.

Amended claims 1, 10 and 22 now specifically disclose flame retardants having a molecular weight of between 7,000 and 50,000 Daltons (supported on page 4, line 1). Amended claim 22 now also incorporates the features of claim 23.

The Applicant respectfully draws the Examiner's attention to the fact that Reference Example 4 of Chen, mentioned by the Examiner as an example of fully end-capped brominated epoxy resin, is not a working example of the Chen's invention but a